GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
STEEL
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2012
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
STEEL DEVELOPMENT FUND
BIKASH CHOWDHURY

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was a fund called Steel Development Fund created out of cess collected from the main steel producers and it has been discontinued since the reform process was undertaken;

(b) if so, whether the main producers including SAIL have been demanding the Government to make their contribution returned in view of the fact that the fund is withdrawn; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by the Government to meet the demand of the main contributors?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY)
(a) Yes, Sir.
(b) & (c): None of the main producers including the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) has demanded for return of their contribution from the Steel Development Fund (SDF). However, SAIL had submitted a revival package to the Government which included, inter-alia, financial and business restructuring of the Company including waiver of loans to the tune of Rs. 5073 crores taken by SAIL from the SDF. The proposal for waiver of SDF loans was considered and approved by the Government on 15.2.2000.